

Message Text

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11

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, HU, US

SUBJ: COMMENT ON "CRISIS" IN AFL-CIO EUROPEAN RELATIONS

GENEVA FOR ILO.

1. TRADE UNION DAILY NEPSZAVA JUNE 2 CARRIED LONG REPORT FROM WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT ON ALLEGED CRISIS BETWEEN AFL-CIO AND WEST EUROPEAN TRADE UNIONS AND GROWING US ISOLATION ON QUESTIONS AFFECTING "INTERNATIONAL WORKER MOVEMENT". ARTICLE BLAMES CRISIS ON GEORGE MEANY'S "WELL-KNOWN BLIND ANTI-COMMUNISM" AND HIS OPPOSITION TO CONTACTS WITH "SOCIALIST" TRADE UNIONS.

2. ARTICLE CONTENDS THAT AFL-CIO LEADERSHIP OUT OF TOUCH WITH WEST EUROPEAN UNIONS DESIRE FOR CONTACTS WITH EAST, CITES AS EXAMPLE ALLEGATION THAT AFL-CIO TOOK FOUR MONTHS SIMPLY TO "DIGEST" FACT THAT JANUARY CONFERENCE IN GENEVA ACTUALLY HELD. CONTENDS THAT AFL-CIO ESTRANGEMENT HAS BROUGHT ABOUT GREATER INDEPENDENCE ON PART OF WEST EUROPEANS AND ISOLATION

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OF US TRADE UNION LEADERSHIP FROM MASS OF AMERICAN

WORKERS.

3. ARTICLE EXPRESSES VIEWS GENERALLY HELD BY HUNGARIAN LEADERS, WHO STRONGLY RESENT AFL-CIO CHARGE THAT THEY DO NOT HAVE LEGITIMATE TRADE UNIONS. ALTHOUGH THEY DO DESIRE "RECOGNITION" BY AFL-CIO, THEY HARBOR LITTLE HOPE THAT IT WILL TAKE PLACE IN NEAR FUTURE AND, THEREFORE, LOOK WITH SATISFACTION ON CONTINUED SIGNS OF TENSION BETWEEN US AND WEST EUROPEANS.

PEDERSEN

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